

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0105

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: PROPOSED NAC MEETING WITH CHIEFS OF CSCE DELEGATIONS

REF: USNATO 6278

1. IN NAC JANUARY 9, CANADIAN PERMREP MENZIES ASKED COUNCIL TO ADOPT PROPOSAL, MADE PREVIOUSLY IN SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE BY CANADA AND OTHERS, THAT COUNCIL MEET WITH CHIEFS OF CSCE DELS TO DISCUSS SUCH CRITICAL ITEMS ON CSCE STATE II DOCKET AS POSSIBLE CSCE FOLLOW-ON MACHINERY AND POSSIBLE HOLDING OF CSCE STAGE III. IN REBUTTING ARGUMENTS OF FRENCH AND ITALIANS (REFTEL) THAT CSCE NEUTRALS MIGHT BE ALIENATED BY HIGHLY VISIBLE "BLOC" COORDINATION, MENZIES NOTED THAT PAST ALLIANCES CONSULTATIONS IN BRUSSELS, HELSINKI AND GENEVA WERE COMMON KNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPTED BY ALL CSCE PARTICIPANTS. INDEED THE DECEMBER COMMUNIQUE OPENLY REFLECTED MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF CSCE. WITHOUT ANY INTENTION OF FORGING A "BLOC" POSITION, THE ALLIANCE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MAJOR QUESTIONS OF DIRECT INTEREST TO IT. MENZIES SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS NOT ESSENTIAL THAT ALL ALLIED CSCE DELEGATION CHIEFS BE PRESENT FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE COUNCIL FULFILL ITS MANDATE FROM MINISTERS TO TAKE A "STAND-BACK OVERVIEW" OF THE CSCE.

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2. CATALANO (ITALY) DOUBTED MENZIES' ARGUMENTS WOULD MOVE ROME FROM ITS OPPOSITION TO MEETINGS HELD AT A LEVEL WHICH MIGHT OFFEND THE NEUTRALS ON WHOM THE ALLIES HAD WORKED SO HARD, AND NOT WITHOUT SUCCESS, TO "BRING INTO CAMP." ITALY AGREED THAT AL-

LIANCE CSCE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE, HOWEVER, AND THUS MIGHT BE DONE AT HIGH LEVEL, BUT LOW RISK, BY PLACING CSCE ON AGENDA FOR POLITICAL DIRECTORS' CONSULTATIONS.

3. BELGIAN PERMREP (DE STAERCKE) AGREED WITH ITALIANS AND SUGGESTED JAN 10-11 SPC-CSCE EXPERTS DISCUSSIONS MIGHT BE SUFFICIENT FOR CURRENT ALLIANCE PURPOSES AND PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO WHAT LEVEL OF FURTHER CONSULTATIONS, MIGHT BE NEEDED AND WHEN.

4. DE ROSE (FRANCE) AGREED WITH ITALIANS AND BELGIAN OBJECTIONS. WHILE RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE, DE ROSE THOUGHT JANUARY 10-11 NATO SESSIONS AND REGULAR MEETINGS IN GENEVA WERE SUFFICIENT TO MEET CURRENT REQUIREMENTS. IN ANY EVENT, FRENCH THOUGHT IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO CONSULT MEANINGFULLY ABOUT SUCH ADMITTEDLY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE FOLLOW-ON MACHINERY AND 3RD CSCE STAGE.

5. IN SUMMING UP, LUNS NOTED MATTER WAS STILL OPEN, AND OBSERVED THAT PAST NATO MEETING WITH CSCE CHIEFS OF DELEGATION HAD NOT IN ANY WAY DAMAGED COOPERATION BY NEUTRALS. RUMSFELD

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